



# Speed Hump Procedure

Traffic Engineering Division

City of San Antonio

Speed Hump Program

223 S. Cherry

San Antonio, Texas 78203

## Speed Hump Program

The speed hump is a gentle rise and fall of pavement surface placed in the roadway to reduce the speed of vehicles. The base of the device is approximately 12 feet wide and gradually slopes to a maximum height of 3 inches. The device has proven, in local tests and in other cities, to be successful in reducing speed while allowing safe operation of the vehicle.

### Step One: Request

A request for Speed Humps begins by completing a "Request for Speed Hump Investigation" form available by calling 207-2075. A request can be made by either a neighborhood or a group of residents, located on the street requesting speed humps. Each request must include a name, address and phone number of a resident from the requested street who agrees to be the contact person. The contact person will receive all correspondence and be responsible for gathering evidence of support. Each contact person must acknowledge designation by signing the request. Only request forms supplied by the Department of Public Works or exact copies may be used for this purpose. Request forms should be submitted to the Traffic Engineering Division at the above address.

The request must be for a specific street segment and should include at least the following information:

- The requested street name
- The boundary of the street segment (i.e. between 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and 5<sup>th</sup> Ave)
- Name of contact person
- Address of contact person
- Daytime phone number of contact person
- Evidence of neighborhood support (ten individual signatures from residents whose property abuts the street segment in question)
- Signature of contact person

Request for speed humps must include evidence of neighborhood support by securing ten signatures of residents supporting the participation in the program. This initial evidence of neighborhood shall not replace the petition requirements in Step Four, "Level of Support."

Requests will be evaluated on an annual basis however the schedule and process do not preclude the Director of Public Works from installing warranted speed humps when and where it is deemed necessary outside the procedures of this program.

### Step Two: Eligibility

In order for a request to qualify for consideration, the street must meet criteria set by the Department. It is the responsibility of the Department to conduct traffic studies to determine if the street segment meets the following criteria:

- The street segment must be primarily a residential street or provide access to abutting residential properties
- The street segment must have no more than one moving lane of traffic in each direction
- The street segment may not be designated as an arterial street on the Major Thoroughfare Plan
- The street must have a speed limit of 30 mph as determined in accordance with State Law
- Traffic volumes must be 500 vehicles per day or greater

- The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile vehicle speed must be 35 mph or greater
- The street segment must not be so close to a Fire Department Facility as to significantly interfere with emergency vehicle operations.
- The street segment must be at least 1,000 feet long without interruption by a traffic control device.

Other factors such as curves and grade changes on the street, emergency access, and safe sight distances will also be evaluated.

Only those requests meeting all the eligibility requirements will proceed to Step Four, "Level of Support." If a request is denied, applicants will not be able to reapply to the speed hump program for the following two years unless there is considerable change in conditions.

All traffic counts will be scheduled during regular commuter periods.

### **Step Three: Funding**

Projects will be scheduled for construction, as funding permits, within the established budget.

Projects may be completed if alternative funds become available or if complementing maintenance and/or capital improvement projects are initiated during the year.

Approved projects which do not receive funding in the current year, will be automatically considered for three additional years. All projects will be re-prioritized by ranking on an annual basis.

An eligible project may be expedited if the applicants choose to pay for 100% of the estimated cost of the installation. Expedited projects will be constructed no later than the next fiscal year following deposit of funding.

### **Step Four: Level of Support**

If the Department determines the street to be eligible and funding has been identified, residents in the corridor in question will receive private, hand-delivered petitions. Only petition forms supplied by the Department of Public Works will be used for this purpose. A street must show two-thirds approval prior to installation.

### **Step Five: Speed Hump Location**

It is the responsibility of the Department to determine the final location of all speed humps in accordance with safe engineering principles, however:

- Speed humps will usually be placed between 300 feet to 500 feet apart.
- A speed hump shall not be located in front of a driveway or within an intersection.
- Speed humps should not be located within 250 feet of a traffic control device or within 50 feet of an intersection.
- "No Parking" signs may be placed within 50 feet of the approaching side of the speed hump if deemed necessary by engineering site conditions
- A speed hump shall not be located in front of a property if the occupant objects to its placement.